

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

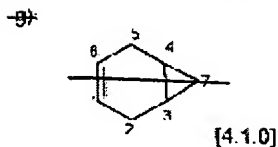
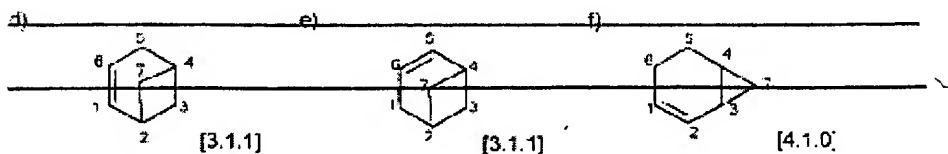
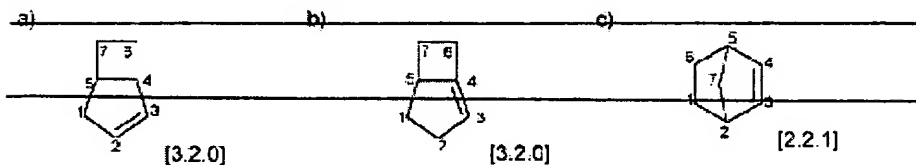
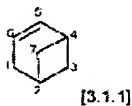
1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) A process for degreasing a hard metal surface, comprising the step of using an aqueous medium comprising at least one compound employed in a concentration of from 0.01 to 10 g/l, having the following formula (I):



wherein:

- Z represents a group having the following formula:



Wherein:

X represents $-CH_2-CH_2-O-$,

RN99101D1

Serial number: 10/820,929

AMENDMENT

R^3 and R^4 , which are identical or different, represent hydrogen or a methyl group, provided that at least one of groups R^3 or R^4 is other than hydrogen,

R^5 represents hydrogen,

n is an integer or a fractional number from 3 to 5 inclusive, and

p is an integer or a fractional number from 6 to 10, limits excluded.

15. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 14, wherein n is equal to 3.

16. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 14, wherein p is from 6.2 to 7, limits included.

17. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 16, wherein p is from 6.3 to 7, limits included.

18. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 17, wherein n is from 4 to 5.

19. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 14, wherein p is from 7 inclusive to 10 exclusive.

20. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 19, wherein p is from 8 inclusive to 10 exclusive.

21. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 14, wherein the hard surface is a metal plate, and the concentration of compound is from 0.01 to 5 g/l.

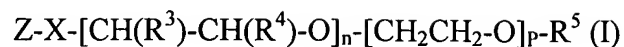
22. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 14, the hard surface is a platform, and the concentration of compound is in the range from 0.01 to 10 g/l.

23. (New) A process for degreasing a hard metal surface, comprising the step of using an aqueous medium comprising at least one compound employed in a concentration of from 0.01 to 10 g/l, having the following formula (I):

RN99101D1

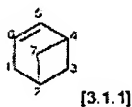
Serial number: 10/820,929

AMENDMENT



wherein:

- Z represents a group having the following formula:



wherein:

X represents $-CH_2-CH_2-O-$,

R^3 and R^4 , which are identical or different, represent hydrogen or a methyl group, provided that at least one of groups R^3 or R^4 is other than hydrogen,

R^5 represents hydrogen,

n is an integer or a fractional number from 4 to 5 inclusive, and

p is an integer or a fractional number from 6.3 to 7, limits included.